



MISSION: INTEGRATION

HANFORD

MISSION

INTEGRATION

SOLUTIONS

NEWSLETTER

February 2022



MISSION: COLLABORATION

Our teams maintain a One Hanford mindset to accomplish work safely and move the mission forward.

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT



As the calendar turns from February to March, I'm always encouraged by the thought that winter is nearly in our rear-view mirror and the warmth and renewal of spring is just ahead. Our team continues to navigate challenges in 2022, thanks to the teamwork and collaboration that are the foundation of our mission and vision.

The One Hanford mission reached a critical milestone in February as the Department of Energy celebrated the start-up of the Hanford Site's new Tank-Side Cesium Removal System. For the first time, Hanford workers are treating tank waste on an industrial scale and preparing it for vitrification and permanent disposal.

We are proud of our One Hanford partners at Washington River Protection Solutions and DOE in this achievement, as well as the collaborative roles our team played to help make it possible. We succeed when other contractors and DOE succeed – that is the nature of the One Hanford mission.

As we charge forward, I know our team will continue to accomplish great things this year as we remain committed to our customers, stakeholders, and our community. Stay safe, stay healthy and keep up the great work!

Bob

Guest Message – Brian Von Bargaen

Teamwork. Relationship building. Trust. Partnerships. Collaboration. These are often the secrets to success – and that's no different at HMIS or Hanford. Overseeing the Interface & Integration Services organization of more than 500 employees supporting every aspect of Hanford cleanup, I cannot tell you the number of times I've found this to be true.

The support our team provides to our HMIS and Hanford customers is diverse, widespread and dependent on collaboration. Many of our services provide critical support to DFLAW, site operations, deactivation and decommissioning, and infrastructure maintenance, both directly and indirectly. These include transportation services (roads and grounds, motor carrier services, and recently added biological controls), crane and rigging, custodial services, warehousing, property management, fleet services, HAMMER, and interface management.

One program which highlights the success of our collaboration efforts is the Hanford Site Governance Model. The process establishes the framework for facilitating efficient and effective decision-making across the Site and is helping to ensure readiness for DFLAW operations. As we move toward the increased pace of operations, we will continue to rely on Site Governance and other means of collaboration to execute the mission.

Thank you for your important role in our continued success and your dedication to our One Hanford team!



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RECOGNITION

Second State Award for 283 West Water Plant

Contributor: Robin Wojtanik

Another honor has come for our Water & Sewer Utilities team with the awarding of a second-straight Silver Certificate from the Washington State Department of Health's Office of Drinking Water. The award is the first under HMIS and given a year after it was initially awarded for five-straight years of consistent performance to remove the tiniest contaminants, or turbidity, from the water at the 283 West water treatment plant.

The state says, "turbidity removal is a key element in protecting consumers from microbial contaminants and maximizing public health." W&SU submits reports every month to show compliance with state regulations. A plant must go above and beyond baselines to be honored with an award.

The state's director of the Office of Drinking Water has said, "Achieving consistently high drinking water quality is the mark of a highly dedicated and skilled water department staff."

Members of the 283 West Water Treatment Plant work staggered shifts to operate the facility 24/7.



RECOGNITION

Fleet Worker Recognized for Keeping Roadways Safe

Contributor: Melissa Ver Steeg

Traffic safety is paramount to Hanford Site workers, and our Sitewide Traffic Safety Committee is making great strides in promoting safe driving across Hanford. This culture shows in the actions of our workforce.

HMIS recently acknowledged Fleet Maintenance worker Shane Reynolds, an employee with subcontractor Indian Eyes, LLC, who went above and beyond to help state troopers arrest a hit and run suspect.

While traveling to work, Shane was nearly run off the road by a semi-truck driving erratically. When Shane witnessed the truck hit another vehicle, spinning it off the road, he knew he could not look the other way. He followed the driver, who left the scene, while contacting Washington State Patrol.

Shane safely monitored the driver from a distance, who attempted to hide, until WSP arrived on scene. The driver tried to flee but was stopped. Shane later found out from WSP that the driver was under the influence. HMIS wants to thank Shane for doing his part to keep our roadways and our community safe!



Fleet Maintenance worker Shane Reynolds recently assisted WSP with catching a fleeing driver.

RECOGNITION



Meteorologists Document Record-Setting Temperature

Contributor: Robin Wojtanik

After six-months of poring over data, examining instruments, analyzing satellite imagery and making an on-site visit, a committee with the National Weather Service confirmed our meteorologists recorded the highest temperature in the history of Washington state: 120°F on June 29, 2021.

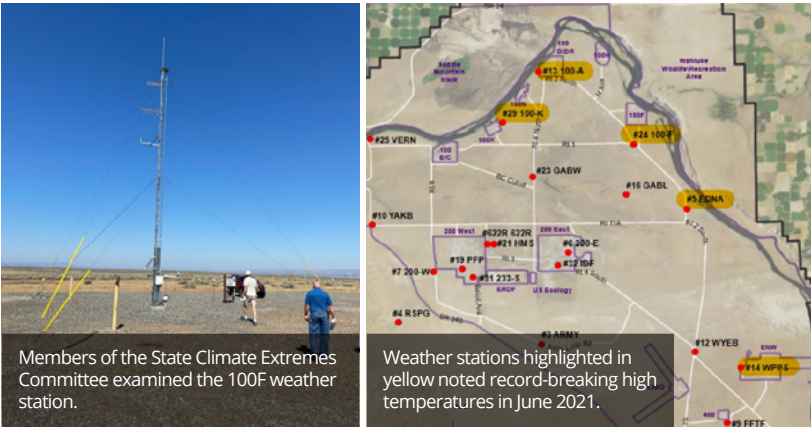
A State Climate Extremes Committee won't accept just any weather observation when it comes to adding a new temperature to the record books. It had to be comfortable with the equipment – that it was fully calibrated and accurate, that the recording wasn't influenced by outside sources like hot pavement, and it was consistent with recordings at neighboring locations. Scientists discussed and debated the findings before finally taking a

unanimous vote that accepted the temperature recorded by our Mission Assurance team – and establishing a new state record.

The committee concluded its report with this statement, "The Washington SCEC would also like to give a special thanks to Grant Gutierrez of the DOE Hanford Site for not only supplying us with the Hanford mesonet (network) data, but also for his patience with us, answering our numerous questions."

Teams with Information Management Services, General Services Administration and Refrigerated Equipment Services worked tirelessly for days during the late June heatwave to protect sensitive equipment, including network infrastructure that operates best at 72°F and also releases its own heat.

The Hanford Meteorological Station reported 19 days in June 2021 with a daily high temperature above 90°F and 10 days above 100°F. Usually, the Hanford Site sees just two days in June with a temperature higher than 100°F.



ONE HANFORD MISSION

Record Wind Creates Tumbleweed Invasion

Contributor: Robin Wojtanik

A single, windy weekend created piles of tumbleweeds equivalent to more than a third of what's typically burned at Hanford in an entire fiscal year! Our Hanford Fire Department recently responded to a request from Energy Northwest to decimate 32 large piles of tumbleweeds, totaling 42,000 cubic yards. The average burning for tumbleweeds rounded up by our Biological Controls team is about 25,000 cubic yards yearly, contributing to a total of about 112,000 cubic yards burned by HFD in 2021.

The nuisance weeds piled up over the same weekend in mid-December when a viral video captured tumbleweeds blocking the entrance to the Pasco Walmart! That day, our meteorologists recorded a 48mph gust as part of one of the windiest months documented on the Hanford Site.

Crews usually conduct a once-a-year burning at ENW when its maintenance team accumulates enough in a contained area. Staff had rounded up a small amount before the windstorm brought in a massive influx of fresh tumbleweeds that created a higher volume because they hadn't had time to compact or decompose.

The pileup was aided by an overall banner year for wind on the Hanford Site – as 2021 tied for one of the windiest years recorded by our Hanford Meteorological Station. This puts tumbleweeds on the move, which Bio Controls corrals by hand or using large machinery to be surveyed for radioactivity. The group fulfilled 237 tumbleweed service requests in FY21, burning 24,000 cubic yards and compacting another 3,000. Tumbleweeds that make it into the tank farms are sent to ERDF.

HFD can only burn tumbleweeds when the air quality rating allows for it, there is no increased risk of wildfire danger, and no added risk to equipment from the cold. Because of this, most burning tends to occur in the spring and fall.



Hanford Patrol welcomes 16 new officers following completion of its 14-week basic training academy.



Students of Hanford Patrol basic academy test their weapons use during training.

ONE HANFORD MISSION

Hanford Patrol Swears in New Officers

Contributor: Melissa Ver Steeg

When Hanford Patrol solicits for the start of basic academy, it averages 300 applicants. Prospective officers come from diverse backgrounds, including college graduates, veterans and former law enforcement officers. Through extensive pre-employment checks and interviews, the field is narrowed, and extensive training begins.

The first week of training introduces students to Hanford, the site culture, general employee training and administrative tasks. Over the course of the remaining 14-weeks, students learn about the legal authorities associated with their Federal Commission, receive RadWorker training, considerable firearms and special weapons training, emergency vehicle operations, physical fitness, first aid and CPR, report writing, defensive tactics and more.

While some instruction takes place in the classroom, much of what students learn is through participation in hands-on, realistic scenarios.

Candidates attain excellent physical fitness through daily cardiovascular and strength training. The combination of fitness and firearms skills is tested on the academy's 800-meter tactical obstacle course. Students have two attempts to meet stringent time and accuracy criteria. Those who fail the course twice are removed from the class.

The academy wraps up with mock scenes where candidates test skills in response to an array of simulated events, from peaceful protests to active shooters and terrorist attempts. The scenarios provide valuable experience to the officers being trained to protect Hanford and its critical assets. Though difficult, the effort put forth by the candidates is essential in preparing for the Hanford Patrol mission. As officers are sworn in at graduation, they are reminded of this important role while proudly accepting their commission cards and shields.

Congratulations and welcome to Nicholas Allen, Nelson Borja, Britten Hershberger, Shane Hill, Jeremy Jalali, Emerson Johnston, Devin Longoria, Eric Magallanes, Francisco Martinez, Eduardo Mejia, Juan Montalvo, Jonathan Nelson, Gabriel Olivera-Guizar, Ethan Small, Emilio Valladares, Jr., and Christopher Webber-Williams!

MISSION: COLLABORATION



Electrical Utilities linemen raised wires as the excavator traveled below.

Excavator Disposed Safely

Contributor: Robin Wojtanik

Our Transportation Services and Electrical Utilities groups completed another milestone for CPCCo – successfully transporting a large excavator from the Plutonium Finishing Plant to the Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility. The 184,000-pound excavator played a key role in PFP demolition and was ready for safe, permanent disposal.

A pre-job meeting reviewed the process of loading the excavator safely and securely with the help of “The Pumpkin,” an aptly named orange truck and trailer on loan from CPCCo. The excavator’s fluids had already been removed, a requirement before disposal at ERDF.

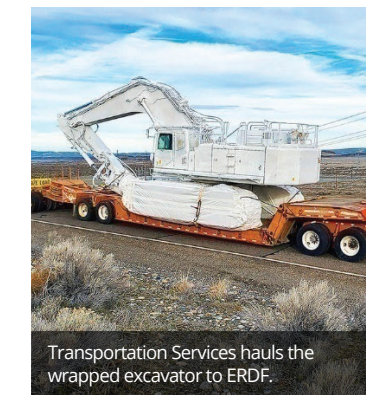
Far from your typical waste shipment, the large excavator was driven onto the trailer and tied down for transport. It’s about a mile’s drive from PFP

to ERDF, but loaded on the trailer, the excavator was now 25-feet high and couldn’t follow a typical path. Collaboratively, the groups determined the safest route, not the shortest route.

EU mapped out a 9-mile route including the fewest overhead wires that would need raising to avoid obstructing the oversized load. Collaborating on the plan, the EU and TS teams drove the route ahead of time to make sure the path was clear to all involved.



The TS team moves the machinery from “The Pumpkin” to its final spot at ERDF.



Transportation Services hauls the wrapped excavator to ERDF.

who safely lifted lines along the way, ensured the excavator’s safe transport and disposal.

“To some, raising power lines may look like a simple task,” said Rick Boarder, EU director. “In reality, it is very dangerous work. You must be ready for anything. I’m very proud of the whole team for their role in this milestone – completed safely!”



Heavy equipment operator Clint Nevills (inside cab) and teamster Sean McKenna (standing) install a set of solar panels atop Gable Mountain that will replace a diesel-powered generator.



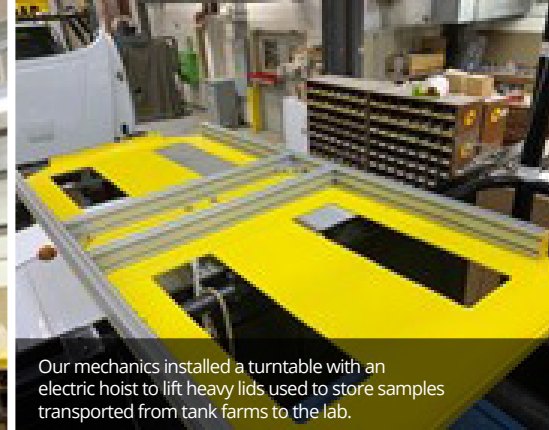
Teamster Dennis Myers brings 40 years of Hanford experience to providing transportation for site tours.



Teamster Dan Phalen alongside a fuel truck used to support machinery and equipment operation across the Hanford Site.



Auto/truck mechanic David Dean retrofits a truck for use by field workers with WRPS.



Our mechanics installed a turntable with an electric hoist to lift heavy lids used to store samples transported from tank farms to the lab.

MISSION: COLLABORATION

Team Focus: Transportation Field Operations Keep Our Mission in Motion

Contributor: Amber Peters

If you're not familiar with Transportation Field Operations, you almost certainly have relied on their services. As the site motor carrier services provider, the team delivers sitewide transportation services in support of HMIS' role as site integrator and the One Hanford cleanup mission.

The group provides numerous services to the Hanford Site and its contractors, including classroom setup for employee training, roadway maintenance, snow removal, tour bus operations, furniture moves, tumbleweed removal, herbicide application, fuel delivery, and water utility support – just to name a few. Team members also manage more than 200 commercial vehicles and operate heavy equipment, including wildland fire support.

The Transportation Field Operations' qualified drivers transport general freight across the site as well as hazardous and radioactive

waste shipments. Critical to the cleanup mission and protection of the environment, drivers safely transport low-level waste from tank farms operations and Central Plateau demolition and remediation projects to Hanford's onsite disposal facility.

To meet requirements imposed by such a varied set of tasks that often take place across wide networks under shifting timelines and at disparate locations, the team exhibits a superior level of coordination.

"I am proud of the level of cooperation and cohesion in our group," said Beth Wright, Transportation Field Operations manager. "Our team is focused on getting work done in the safest, most efficient way possible and that starts with clear communication, shared goals and a commitment to exceeding expectations."

As the Hanford Site continues to prepare for 24/7 operations and waste treatment, the Transportation Field Operations team will remain an integral part of HMIS' role as site integrator by providing essential, sitewide transportation and road maintenance services safely and effectively.

MISSION: COLLABORATION

Fleet Makes Unique Updates to WRPS Trucks

Contributor: Robin Wojtanik

Our Fleet Services team worked with WRPS engineers to make efficiency and ergonomic updates on trucks for workers who routinely transport radioactive samples from tank farms to the 222-S Laboratory.

Teamsters requested modifications that would allow them to use both barrels installed on the trucks. In most circumstances, only one shipping container was used due to the challenge of lifting the heavy, oversized lids. There wasn't a good place to rest the lids, so one was often laid on the top of the other barrel – rendering it unusable.

"At one point it was determined that it was more ergonomically safe to transport one sample at a time," said Peter Griffin, WRPS engineer. "When the transport ability was cut in half, there was a desire to get back to the same efficiency as before, two samples per truck."

To address ergonomic concerns, WRPS engineers drew up a design and worked with Fleet mechanics to execute the vision. This included replacing a manual hoist with an electric one, run by a new power inverter, also installed by our team. After a couple weeks in the garage, the trucks feature a pivoting table that can hold the lids securely and safely instead of placing one lid on top of another.

"It has been a fun opportunity to work with the Fleet Services folks," Griffin added. "They called me out to the shop a few times and I walked them through the changes. These aren't typical updates and if they encountered an issue, they would reach out and continue the dialogue with the mechanics to overcome any obstacles. This is an example of a simple modification that will pay bigger dividends in terms of efficiency and worker safety."

MISSION: COLLABORATION

Procedures Team Completes 'Blue Sheet' Process

Contributor: Shane Edinger

January marked the one-year anniversary of our company, and one of the final pieces of the transition from MSA to HMIS was completed last month.

The team in the HMIS Procedures organization spent the past year updating all the company's procedures from MSA to HMIS, a process known as 'blue sheeting.' When one company takes over the management of a contract from another, it's common for the new team to adopt the previous company's operating procedures as written to ensure a smooth transition. However, each adopted procedure gets a blue sheet with a deadline for when it needs to be updated.

Those updates include removing all references to the previous company and replacing them with the new company's name. Any necessary procedural changes are also added to the new procedure to ensure it is up to date. "This touched every HMIS organization," said Operations Support director Jennifer Ollero. "Every organization has a procedure. Every procedure had a blue sheet. Every blue sheet had an expiration date."

Some procedures needed to be updated immediately upon transition. Others were given a deadline of 30, 90, or 365 days. A team of six procedure writers, led by Procedures manager Kent Johnson, spent the last year updating a total of 1,862 procedure documents. Thanks to some great collaboration between the procedure writers and the organization managers, the process went smoothly and was completed ahead of schedule.



(Clockwise from top) Katie Ritter, Kent Johnson, Rita Abdella and Charles Camp are part of the team who updated 1,862 HMIS procedure documents.

"It went extremely well," Ollero added. "The organizations worked hand-in-hand with the procedure writers to make sure nothing fell through the cracks. It was a huge effort and I'm proud to say we met every single deadline."



Environmental Management Systems coordinator Morgan Baker was one of 45 community volunteers who recently participated in Delta High School's mock interview event.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Helping Students Prepare for Their Future

Contributor: Shane Edinger

HMIS is committed to investing in the development of the future Hanford workforce through support of robust educational and leadership development programs for local youth. Taking part in a recent mock interview event for juniors at Delta High School is a shining example of that commitment.

Environmental Management Systems coordinator Morgan Baker, whose daughter is currently a freshman at Delta, represented HMIS at this year's mock interview event on Jan. 28. She interviewed four students, asking them a series of questions provided by the school. Each student was graded in several categories, including appearance, interview skills, and content knowledge. "I was really impressed by all four of them," Baker shared. "I wasn't quite sure what to expect, but they were all very professional."

More than 80 students participated in this year's event, along with 45 volunteers representing several other local employers. "We wouldn't be able to pull off events like this without the support of our volunteers," added Heather Hoppe, Delta High School's community engagement manager. "These experiences are so powerful for our students. Not only does it help them gain important life skills, but the confidence boost you see after the interviews can be life changing for them."

The mock interviews are just one element of the course study that Delta's juniors must complete. They also learn valuable skills in résumé and cover letter writing, developing an elevator speech, and writing thank you notes, among others. Skills that will prove to be quite valuable as they prepare for life after high school.



Celebrating the 2022 Boys & Girls Clubs of Benton & Franklin Counties Youth of the Year!



Haley Taylor with Procurement & Reneé Brooks with Communications shopping with Youth of the Year finalists and their advisors.



(L-R) Kennewick clubhouse member and 2022 Youth of the Year Wendy Suarez, Pasco finalist Angelina Salinas, and Prosser finalist Aaron Price.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Great Futures Start Here

Contributor: MaryAnne Wuennecke

HMIS is the proud sponsor of the local Youth of the Year program at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Benton & Franklin Counties, which recognizes outstanding teen members who demonstrate leadership, service, academic success and living a healthy lifestyle.

Candidates from clubs in Kennewick, Pasco and Prosser submit essays about what participating in Club programs means to them and how it has improved their lives. A finalist from each club is selected to compete for the organization’s top title.

HMIS staff members joined the three finalists on a shopping trip to provide them with outfits to wear during their presentations and interviews with judges. Club advisor Richard Nuñez says not having to worry about their clothing really helps their confidence, “If you look good, you feel good and you perform good.”

I&SS leadership Daniel Saucedo (also a B&G Club board member) and Todd Synoground served as judges. It was Todd’s first year on the panel, and he was blown away by all three candidates, “These are high-caliber kids who came from rough starts and have overcome significant life issues. A common theme among them was not being a product of your environment. I was also very impressed with their confidence throughout the process – I couldn’t have done what they’re doing at that age!”

The organization announced Wendy Juarez from the Kennewick clubhouse as the winner during a ceremony this month. Wendy is a junior who wants

to use her voice to inspire and help others, “Giving back to our community is something I have always wanted to do, but I did not have the courage or opportunities until now.” Wendy now advances to the statewide competition in Seattle in March.

We are proud to support this program and play a role in developing tomorrow’s leaders!

